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NORHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1955



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NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1955

To the Chairman and Members of the Northampton Rural District Council.

My Lady, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once more I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1955.

As before, the statistics for infectious disease agree with those of England and Wales. No serious epidemics took place and notifications were reported by the General Practitioners more regularly than last year.

Your assistant Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Merriman and Mr. Harris, have given a large part of their time to their duties of meat inspection, and one wonders if some payment should not be made by the Meat Traders as a share in the cost to the Council.

Reports have been received regularly from the Water Board regarding the quality of the water, and it has been satisfactory.

By the time this report is received it is hoped that a start will have been made on the Poliomyelitis immunisation, and one hopes that this will be as successful as the Diphtheria immunisation has proved.

The new Food and Drugs Act will also be in operation and here this should lessen the chance of Food Poisoning, when inspections are carried out regularly on food premises.

Again I wish to thank Mr. Miller, Mr. Merriman and Mr. Harris for their co-operation and the help they have given me in the past year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR LUCAS

Medical Officer of Health.





SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS 1955

Area (acres) .....	50,010
Population (estimated mid-year 1955) .....	21,930
Number of Inhabited houses (at 31st March, 1956) according to rate books .....	7,485
Rateable value (31st December, 1955) .....	£131,434
Product of ld. rate 1955/1956 (Actual) .....	£525. 6. 2d.

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Legitimate	356	179	177		
Illegitimate	11	6	5		
	367	185	182	16.7	15.0

STILLBIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Legitimate	4	2	2		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
	4	2	2	10.8	23.1

DEATHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
All causes	298	157	141	13.6	11.7

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES - Nil.

INFANT MORTALITY - rate per 1000 live births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate</u>	
Legitimate	7	5	2		
Illegitimate	-	1	-		
	7	6	2	21.9	24.9

DEATHS FROM

Malignant neoplasm (all ages)	52
Measles (all ages)	nil
Whooping Cough	nil
Diarrhoea	nil

CAUSES OF DEATH

During the year the principal causes of death were those in the heart diseases categories (Refer to Table I on page Causes of Death).



## SECTION A

### Natural and Social Conditions

Deaths:- The total number of deaths assigned to the District by the Registrar General after adjustment for outward and inward transferable deaths was 298, as compared with 274 in 1954. The crude death rate based on the estimated population was 13.6 per thousand as compared with 13.1 in 1954.

The following table shows the death rates for the quinquennium 1951 - 1955, together with the corresponding rates for England and Wales and the Administrative County:-

#### Death Rates 1951 - 1955

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Northampton R.D.	10.04	9.61	11.3	13.1	13.6
Administrative County	12.13	11.04	11.51	11.04	11.38
England & Wales	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7

The history of the rate, together with other vital statistics for the years 1935 - 1955 is shown on Table II on page

Births:- The number of live births assigned to the District was 356, (179 males, 177 females) as compared with 321 in 1954, thus giving a crude rate of 16.7 per thousand of population as compared with 15.3 for the previous year. The following table shows the trend of the birthrate for the years 1951 - 1955 with other rates for comparison:-

#### Crude Birth Rates 1951 - 1955

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Northampton R.D.	15.47	15.12	15.7	15.3	16.7
Administrative County	15.57	15.5	16.16	16.2	15.49
England & Wales	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0

Stillbirths:- There were 4 stillbirths assigned to the District as compared with 6 in 1954.

#### Stillbirth Rates 1951 - 1955 (per thousand total Births)

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Northampton R.D.	13.2	0.3	0.35	0.28	23.1

Illegitimate Birth Rate:- Eleven illegitimate live births were registered as compared with eight in 1954. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births, this represents 3.1 per cent compared with 2.4 per cent in 1954.



Natural and Social Conditions (continued)

Maternal Mortality:- There was no maternal death assigned to the District, compared with none in 1954 and one in 1953.

Infant Mortality:- The number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday was 7 (5 males and 2 females). There were six (4 males and 2 females) in 1954.

The rates for 1951 - 1955 together with other rates for comparison are:-

Deaths under One year per thousand live births

	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Northampton R.D.	29	29	28	18	21.9
Administrative County	25	25	25	24	20.79
England & Wales	29	28	27	26	24.9

- - - - -





## SECTION B

### 1. General Provisions of Health Services:-

Medical Officer of Health	A. Lucas, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	R. J. Miller, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	M. de V. Merriman, M.S.I.A. T. A. Harris, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H.

### 2. Laboratory Facilities:-

The bacteriological work associated with the Public Health Department is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service whose laboratory, in charge of which is Dr. C. Hoyle, is situated at the Northampton General Hospital. The bacteriological examination of water samples is also carried out by Dr. Hoyle.

### 3. Diphtheria Antitoxin:-

A supply of antitoxin is always available for use in the District by applying to the dispenser at the Northampton General Hospital.

### 4. Treatment Centres and Clinics:-

Child Welfare Centres, provided by the County Council, are held at Duston, Hackleton, Kislingbury, Weston Favell and Roade.

An antenatal clinic, also provided by the County Council, is available at the County Hall, Northampton.

### 5. Tuberculosis Survey, Duston:-

Compared with 1954 when the total of new cases of Tuberculosis notified amounted to three, the total of twenty-nine notifications in 1955 requires some explanation. A considerable number of the new cases were reported from St. Crispin Hospital, Duston, where a Mass Radiography survey had been carried out.

A further Mass Radiography survey was carried out in the District during which 2,027 persons were examined, but only seven new cases of significant pulmonary tuberculosis were detected.

Reference should be made to Appendix Table III on page 21.





## SECTION C

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

#### 1. Water

The Main Public Water Supply is now available in all Parishes in the District with the exception of Castle Ashby. During the year the main public water supply was connected to the existing service pipes at Little Houghton, the local supply being excluded. There are, however, private piped water supplies to Castle Ashby and Whiston. The water supplies derived from private and public wells are still far from satisfactory and in nearly every case, upon being analysed, the water was found to be polluted.

At present there are 11 public wells. Of these 5 have pumps in working order. Most of these wells are polluted and where applicable, notices have been posted to indicate that the water is unfit for human consumption.

#### 2. Rivers and Streams

No complaints were received during the year of pollution of rivers or streams.

#### 3. Sanitation and Water Supplies Schedule

For further details, reference may be made to the schedule of Sanitation and Water Supplies in Table XIV of the Appendix on page 34.

#### 4. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The delay in providing sewage disposal schemes in Great Houghton, Hardingstone, Courteenhall, Hackleton and Rothersthorpe is regrettable as there is always a danger to health with the present inadequate methods of disposal. The present methods are old and have not improved on those of the Middle Ages, and one cannot expect agricultural workers to live in such conditions in view of the benefits of modern sanitation to be found in towns and urban areas. Surely as an incentive the Ministry should allow these schemes to proceed forthwith if agriculture is not to suffer by the drift of labour to better areas.



SECTION DInspection and Supervision of Food1. Milk Supply

The number of persons registerable under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 was 10.

Further particulars can be found on page 15.

2. Food Premises

Regular inspections have been made during the year of food shops, travelling vans and other food premises, as far as other duties have permitted. Further details will be found on pages 15 and 16.

3. Food Poisoning Outbreaks

One notification of a food poisoning outbreak was received during 1955.

4. Meat Inspection

All the eight slaughterhouses licensed upon decontrol of slaughtering continued in operation during the year.

In order to maintain 100% meat inspection in conjunction with the other Public Health demands of the department, an additional Sanitary Inspector was appointed early in the year.

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SECTION EPrevalence of, and control over Infectious  
and other Diseases1. Smallpox

No case was notified during the year, as was so in 1954.

2. Scarlet Fever

Sixteen cases (7 male, 9 female) were notified during the year, as compared with twenty-three during 1954. All the cases appeared to be of a mild clinical type.

3. Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

4. Puerperal Pyrexia

One case was notified under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1939, in the year under review, as compared with one in 1954.

5. Pneumonia

Twenty-one cases (9 male, 12 female) of acute primary pneumonia or acute influenzal pneumonia were notified, as compared with thirty-one cases in 1954. Pneumonia was the certified cause of death in twenty-one cases. These deaths are not necessarily those of patients who were notified under the relevant regulations.

6. Erysipelas

Five cases were notified, as compared with two in 1954.

7. Measles

Three hundred and fifteen cases were notified during the year, as compared with none in 1954. There were no deaths.

8. Whooping Cough

Ninety-four cases were notified, as compared with thirty in 1954. There were no deaths.

9. Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis)

Six cases were notified during the year, compared with none in 1954. There were two deaths.

10. Acute Encephalitis (Infective)

One case was notified during the year, compared with none in 1954.

11. Dysentery

Four cases were notified during the year, as compared with one in 1954.

/continued ...





Prevalence of, and control over Infectious  
and other Diseases (continued)

12. Cerebro Spinal Fever

No case was notified during the year, as compared with one in 1954.

13. Food Poisoning

One case was notified during the year, as compared with none in 1954.

14. Tuberculosis

Twenty-nine new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year - twenty-seven cases being respiratory - as compared with three cases - two respiratory - in 1954.

Two persons died of Tuberculosis during the year.

The age and sex incidence of the new cases and deaths from the disease are given in Table III on page 21.

The corrected number of deaths, together with the crude death rate during the quinquennium 1951 - 1955 and those for the administrative county are as follows:-

	<u>Tuberculosis Mortality</u>				
	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1955</u>
Northampton R.D.	0.102	0.3	0.29	0.15	0.05
Administrative County	0.26	0.25	0.18	0.12	0.09

No action was taken during 1955 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

15. National Assistance Act, 1948

No action was taken under Section 47 or under Section 50 of the Act.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

A. LUCAS

Medical Officer of Health.





NORTHAMPTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1955



REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1955

Mr. Chairman, My Lady, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1955, being the twenty-fifth I have had the honour to present.

1. Staff - Administrative

Chief of Department	....	R. J. Miller, A.I.A.S., M.R.S.H., Registered Architect.
Sanitary Inspectors	....	M. de V. Merriman, M.S.I.A. T. A. Harris, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.H.
Chief Clerk	....	S. O. Starmer
Clerk	....	R. S. Haynes

2. Staff - Outdoor

Rodent Operator -	1
Sewage Disposal - (Labourers)	5
Refuse Disposal - (Drivers)	3
- (Loaders)	6
- (Labourers)	1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Water Supplies

During the year 110 samples were taken, 81 being taken from public sources and 29 from private wells etc. All samples were submitted for bacteriological examination.

Of the 110 samples submitted for bacteriological examination, 40 samples were of untreated water as follows:-

	<u>Piped Supplies</u>	<u>Other Supplies</u>
Ashton	-	1
Billing	-	3
Brafield	-	3
Castle Ashby	6	5
Cogenhoe	-	2
Hackleton	-	4
Hardingstone	-	7
Hartwell	-	1
Nether Heyford	-	1
Roade	-	1
Quinton	-	1
Wootton	-	3
	<u>6</u>	<u>34</u>



The Results of all bacteriological samples have been categorised and the following percentages obtained:-

Note:- 1954 percentages in parentheses.

	<u>Public Supplies</u>		<u>Private Supplies</u>	
	<u>Piped</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Piped</u>	<u>Other</u>
<u>Category 1</u>				
(Very satisfactory - No B. coli or faecal coli)	80.82% (82.42%)	25.00% (16.66%)	66.7% (40.00%)	17.39% (16.67%)
<u>Category 2</u>				
(Satisfactory - small B. coli count - no faecal coli)	12.33% (8.79%)	37.5% (5.56%)	- (20.00%)	8.70% (16.67%)
<u>Category 3</u>				
(Unsatisfactory & suspicious high B. coli count, no faecal coli)	2.74% (5.49%)	25.00% (5.56%)	- (-)	13.04% (16.66%)
<u>Category 4</u>				
(Unsatisfactory & dangerous - B. coli and faecal coli)	4.11% (-)	- (11.11%)	33.3% (-)	39.13% (-)
<u>Category 5</u>				
(Very unsatisfactory & dangerous - high counts of B. coli and faecal coli)	- (3.30%)	12.5% (61.11%)	- (40.00%)	21.74% (50.00%)

In the above table will be found a summary of the reports received on water samples taken both for emergency reasons or for routine purposes during the year under review. Details of water sample reports for each Parish can be found in Table X of the Appendix on page 30.

Generally speaking, the District has a high standard as regards the purity of water supplies. The Main supply is now available to all parishes in the District excepting Castle Ashby and Whiston, and many more dwellings have been connected to it.

Out of 11 known Public Wells only five were in use during 1955 compared with nine in 1954.

During the year one chemical sample was taken of main supply water and was found to be satisfactory.

#### Swimming Pool

During the season 38 samples of water from the one privately owned public swimming pool were taken for bacteriological examination. Of these, 32 were very satisfactory, and two, one at the beginning of the season and one at the end, were slightly suspicious, shewing low count of coliform bacilli with no faecal coli present.

On one occasion, a sample was taken immediately following a breakdown of the chlorination plant, and it was found to be a very unsatisfactory water with evidence of very heavy faecal pollution.

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Swimming Pool (continued)

Repairs were effected within two days, and samples were again found to be very satisfactory. The remaining three unsatisfactory samples were taken in July, when the supply of chlorine had temporarily run out. Increased stocks were immediately procured and maintained thereafter.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures

Applications in connection with licensing of caravans and temporary buildings call for care and detailed investigation, whether it be for land to hold a number of such structures or just for one moveable dwelling. Public Health and Country Planning considerations have to be sifted whilst bearing in mind the factors of the individual case.

There are seven land sites at present licensed whilst ten licences are in force for single caravans or small groups of moveable dwellings. Further details can be found in Table IX on page 29.

Eradication of Bed Bugs

During the year no cases of infestation were reported, as was so in 1954.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Under the order of priority the position at the end of 1955 was:-

Duston - Millway Sewer	- completed 1947
Roade - Hyde Lane & London Road Sewer	- completed 1949
Weston Favell - Kettering Road Sewer	- completed 1950
Bugbrooke & Heyford - Full scheme	- completed 1952
Cogenhoe Brafield Little Houghton	} Combined drainage scheme to Northampton Corporation works - completed 1953
Hartwell Ashton	} - Full scheme - completed 1953
Billing	- New Sewerage - completed 1950
Harpole Kislingbury	} - Full scheme - completed 1954
Hackleton Piddington Horton	} - Full scheme - part completed
Collingtree	- Full scheme - completed 1955
Great Houghton	- Full scheme - Inquiry by Ministry in July
* Rothersthorpe	- Full scheme - Plans for combined scheme rejected by Ministry in November.
Wootton - Sewerage of Village	- completed 1953
Denton - Improvement to Disposal	

/continued...





Sewerage and Sewage Disposal (continued)

Hardingstone - Improvements to Disposal	- Plans approved by Council in November
* Milton - " "	
Yardley Hastings - " "	
Harpole - Larkhall Lane Extension	- completed 1954
Brafield - Extension at Top End	- Tender approved in January
Courteenhall - Full scheme	- Still with Ministry
Nether Heyford - Wharf Extension	- Work in hand
Ashton - Little Ashton Extension	- Tenders received in June

GENERAL

In addition to progress detailed above, other principal drainage items dealt with during the year were:-

- (i) A scheme proposed for Folly Lane, Hartwell (£4,680)
- (ii) Relief Sewer laid to Billing Wharf Pumping Station.
- (iii) Sewer extension Ransome Road.
- (iv) Relief Sewer at Roade to provide for new Secondary Modern School.
- (v) Sewers and pumping station at Westone Estate taken over.

... ..

Most of the properties in the different villages where sewerage is now available are becoming connected and converted to water closets.

The following figures show the position at the end of 1955:-

	<u>Connections<sup>2</sup>/or Conversions</u>	<u>Sewer available but not connected</u>
Bugbrooke	137	18
Nether Heyford	101	3
Upper Heyford	3	6
Hartwell	66	20
Ashton	27	6
Cogenhoe	92	49 (Some of these
Kislingbury	89	55 may be con-
Harpole	126	102 nected to the
Collingtree	32	38 old Church
		Street sewer)

... ..

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

Those properties which are still or can only be served by cesspool drainage place great reliance on the availability of this service, as is evidenced by the strong reaction if for any reason it is temporarily suspended.

Statistically the number of properties attended to decreased by 64 (19% over 1954) Consequently the mileage was down (7.5%) and the total cost down by 23%. The cost per cesspool was up slightly to an average of £3.13. 9d. each, against £3. 10. 9d. A greater number of re-chargeable work was done and brought in 20% of the total expenditure.



## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service continued unchanged in its collecting schedules. It was, however, necessary to engage the additional collecting unit of three men, the need for this being readily seen by reference to the continued growth of house building in the District (12% increase for the year). This largely accounts for the 8% increase in weight collected and the 37% increase in vehicle mileage. The difference in ratio of the two figures is influenced also by the factor of a third vehicle now required in regular use. The total nett cost of the service increased by a little over 10%.

Revenue from salvage increased by 50% (£1660 against £1105) but this rate of return cannot be expected to continue through 1956 as there are signs of a glut in waste paper at the pulp mills.

Vehicle replacement will shortly have to be considered, particularly for the present third vehicle which is an open lorry.

... ..

## Housing Act, 1936

A summary of action taken during the year is as follows:-

Number of Houses on which action was commenced	38	(32)
" " " " " demolition orders were made	6	(4)
" " " " " closing orders were made	1	(0)
" " " " " proposals for reconstruction were accepted	11	(9)
" " " " " other proposals were accepted	5	(3)
" " " " " action has not been finalised	30	(40)
" " " for which licences were issued for temporary occupation	9	(10)

## Housing Acts, 1949 - 54

Number of houses for which Improvement Grant application were made -  
74 (59)

of which seven were under Housing Act Notice.

NOTE:- Figures for 1954 are shown in brackets.

## Housing

Owing to the fact that the waiting lists for Council Houses have diminished considerably, the Council has been able to re-house numbers of people from sub-standard houses.

Efforts have been made by the Council in connection with the Slum Clearance programme, and a sub-Committee is undertaking a survey of the District dealing with low category houses and cottages Parish by Parish.

/continued....



Housing (continued)

In the ten years up to the end of 1955 the Council have completed 1446 permanent houses, a great achievement in the history of the District from the Public Health viewpoint.

It will be observed from the above statistics that a considerable increase has been made in the use of Improvement Grants during 1955. It has been, and still is, the policy of the Council to raise the all-round standard of housing in the District in this helpful manner.

Milk Regulations

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, seven supplementary licences were issued during the year, to enable firms from outside the area to retail pasteurised milk within the District, and two licences were issued for sterilised milk to be sold.

Five licences were issued to traders outside the area to sell raw tuberculin tested milk in the area.

Seven licences were also issued to enable dealers whose premises are within the District to sell milk under the special designation "Pasteurised."

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938Knackers' Yards

There is one licensed Knacker's Yard in the district. Inspections were carried out during the year, and conditions were found to be generally satisfactory.

Details of casualties dealt with are shown in Table XIII of the Appendix on page 33.

Food Premises

The number of premises in which food is prepared and sold is 250, consisting of the following:-

Bakehouses	5
Butchers	21
Factory Canteens	6
School Canteens	14
Institutional Canteens	2
Clubs	4
Greengrocers	5
Grocers etc.	68
Ice-cream sales points	54
Licensed premises	54
Refreshment Houses	7
Confectioners	7
Food Factories	2
Fishmongers	1
	<hr/>
	250
	<hr/>

/continued...





Food Premises (continued)

In the majority of instances the standard of food premises and food handling within the District has improved during the year.

Those in charge of the food premises are becoming more constantly aware of the public demand for a high standard of hygiene in such premises.

It will be noted that there was an increase of 12 in the number of ice-cream sales points during the year.

Constant visitation is necessary to obtain and maintain the necessary standards.

In relatively few cases have the Council had to take informal action to secure compliance.

This work forms a large part of the Sanitary Inspectors' duties, and the necessity for it is shown by the rapidity of spread of food poisoning if it arises.

Ice-Cream

There are 54 premises registered for the sale and storage of ice-cream, an increase of 12 over last year.

The trend in the ice-cream trade continues towards the concentration of manufacture in a few large businesses. Thus problems of transportation and storage have to be overcome. The proper wrapping of the product is a main essential, as is the personal cleanliness of the individual food handler.

During the year a total of 20 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service and subjected to the Methylene Blue Test.

Grade	Time Taken to Reduce Methylene Blue	No.	Percentage
1	4½ hours or more	13	65.00 (29.55)
2	2½ hours to 4 hours	5	25.00 (47.73)
3	½ hour to 2 hours	2	10.00 (20.45)
4	0 hours	-	(2.27)

(Note:- Percentages for 1954 are given in parentheses)

It will be noted that the results obtained show a considerable improvement in standard compared with the results in 1954.

During the year 4 samples were taken of "water ices" of which all reached a satisfactory bacteriological standard.

Meat Inspection

During the year the throughput at the Hardingstone abattoir considerably increased, but with the provision in the early part of the year of a pre-cooler and cold storage accommodation, excessive

/continued...





Meat Inspection (continued)

fluctuations in the number of livestock slaughtered daily were largely obviated and the throughput became gradually steady, thus rendering Sunday slaughtering unnecessary for the greater part of the year.

With the co-operation of the meat traders, the overtime worked was kept to a minimum, although it is an integral part of meat inspection.

Twenty-five cases of cysticercus bovis were discovered, but in two cases only was it necessary to submit the carcass to refrigeration.

The incidence of tuberculosis in the cattle inspected was reasonably low, due, no doubt, to the generally good quality of the beasts and the relatively small number of cows slaughtered (141 out of a total of 5558).

During the year 28,411 head of livestock were slaughtered (5417 cattle, 141 cows, 245 calves, 12108 sheep and 10500 pigs) Of this total, 25070 head were slaughtered at the Hardingstone abattoir, a percentage of 88.24.

Details of carcasses inspected and condemned are shown in Table XI of the Appendix on page 31.

Factories Act, 1937

Details of inspections made under the Factories Act, 1937, will be found in Table VII of the Appendix on page 25.

Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936

The storage of petroleum is not always treated with the caution that this dangerous material requires. This is why special care is taken in examining new applications for siting and storage of petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures.

69 licences were renewed during the year for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures. 3 licences were transferred.

4 new licences were issued. The total storage capacity of licensed premises at the end of the year was:-

(1)	Petroleum Spirit	....	90,215 gallons
(2)	Petrol and other oils	....	870 gallons
(3)	Petroleum Mixtures	....	3,774 gallons

No licences were issued for the storage of calcium carbide.

.....

I would join with Dr. Lucas in thanks to Mr. Merriman and Mr. Harris for their constant willingness and assiduous attention to the welfare of the District.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

R. J. MILLER

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



INDEX OF TABLES

Table		Pages
I	Causes of Death - 1955	19
II	Vital Statistics: 1935 - 1955	20
III	New Cases of and Deaths from Tuberculosis 1955	21
IV	Age Incidence of Notifiable Diseases 1955	22
V	Incidence of Notifiable Diseases in Individual Parishes 1955	23
VI	Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Diseases 1955	24
VII	Inspections under Factories Act, 1937 - Part I and Part VIII - during 1955	25 - 26
VIII	Summary of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector during 1955	27 - 28
IX	Tents, Vans, Sheds & Similar Structures Licensing 1955	29
X	Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies 1955	30
XI	Meat Inspection 1955	31
XII	Refuse Collection and Disposal, Year ended 31st March, 1956	32
XIII	Casualties dealt with at Knacker's Yard during 1955	33
XIV	Schedule of Sanitation and Water Supplies within the District	34



TABLE I

## Causes of Death - 1955

No.	Causes of Death	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis - respiratory	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis - other	1	-	1
3	Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	1	-	1
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	5	12
11	" " lungs, bronchus	9	1	10
12	" " breast		4	4
13	" " uterus		2	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	10	26
15	Leukemia, aleukemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	1	2	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	25	35
18	Coronary disease, angina	26	20	46
19	Hypertension with heart disease	5	2	7
20	Other heart disease	25	17	42
21	Other circulatory diseases	12	12	24
22	Influenza	-	1	1
23	Pneumonia	11	10	21
24	Bronchitis	9	8	17
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1	3
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	1		1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		-	-
31	Congenital malformations	1	1	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	10	19
33	Motor vehicle accidents	6	4	10
34	All other accidents	2	3	5
35	Suicide	-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	Total - All causes	157	141	298





TABLE II

## Vital Statistics for 1955 and Previous Years

Year	Estimated Population of Northampton Rural District		Births		Deaths			
					Under 1 year		All ages	
			No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1935	*	13,600	199	14.63	6	30.15	165	12.13
1936		15,440	206	13.3	14	67.96	183	11.8
1937		15,600	190	12.17	8	42.11	170	10.89
1938		15,680	212	13.4	6	28.30	141	8.9
1939	s	15,760	220	14.5	10	45.45	190	11.4
	ss	16,580						
1940		17,880	238	13.3	8	33.61	228	12.7
1941		19,430	219	11.2	8	37.44	187	9.06
1942		17,890	230	12.6	6	26.08	180	10.06
1943		17,080	273	15.9	7	25.64	186	10.8
1944		17,760	296	16.7	16	54.05	184	10.35
1945	*	15,760	246	13.8	8	32.52	190	10.9
	ss	17,350						
1946	+	17,600	340	19.3	12	35.26	174	9.9
1947	+	17,910	355	19.8	13	36.62	202	11.2
1948	+	18,370	279	15.19	8	28.8	168	9.15
1949	ss	18,760	293	15.58	13	44.37	230	12.26
	s	18,810						
1950	+	19,320	268	13.87	6	22.39	213	11.03
1951		19,580	303	15.47	9	29.70	234	11.95
1952		19,970	302	15.12	9	29.0	187	9.61
1953		20,240	305	15.7	9	28.3	231	11.3
1954		20,890	321	15.3	6	18.3	274	13.1
1955		21,930	367	16.7	7	21.9	298	13.6

\* Hardingstone R.D. and part of Potterspury R.D.  
added to District.

+ Mid-Year estimate of District.

s Population for calculation of Birth Rate.

ss Population for calculation of Death Rate.





TABLE III

New Cases of and Deaths from Tuberculosis - 1955

NEW CASES					DEATHS			
Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Age Periods	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
-1								
-5			1					
-15			1					
-25		2						
-35	7	1						
-45		2						
-55	2	4						
-65	6							
65+		3					1	
TOTALS	15	12	2	-	-	-	1	-

NOTE:- These figures are uncorrected and include all deaths from Tuberculosis within the District.



TABLE IV

Age Incidence of Notifiable Diseases  
As Notified by General Practitioners  
1955

AGE GROUP	DISEASE													
	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic-N.Paralytic				Acute En- cephalitis Infective			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-			3	3	4	1								
1-			7	5	34	18	1							
3-	2	2	10	15	27	19	1							
5-	3	5	21	23	102	98	2			1				
10-	2	2	1	5	6	2								
15-					1						1			
25 & over										1				
Age unknown			1		1	2								
TOTALS	7	9	43	51	175	140	4	-	-	2	1	-		
	Acute Pneumonia		Dysentery		Erysipelas		Puerperal Pyrexia		Food Poisoning		Tuberculosis			
											Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
0-		1							1				1	
5-	2	1	1	1								1	1	
15-	3	2	2		1	1		1			7	4		
45-	1	2			1	1					8	4		
65 & over	2	6										3		
Age unknown						1								
TOTALS	9	12	3	1	2	3	-	1	1	-	15	12	2	-

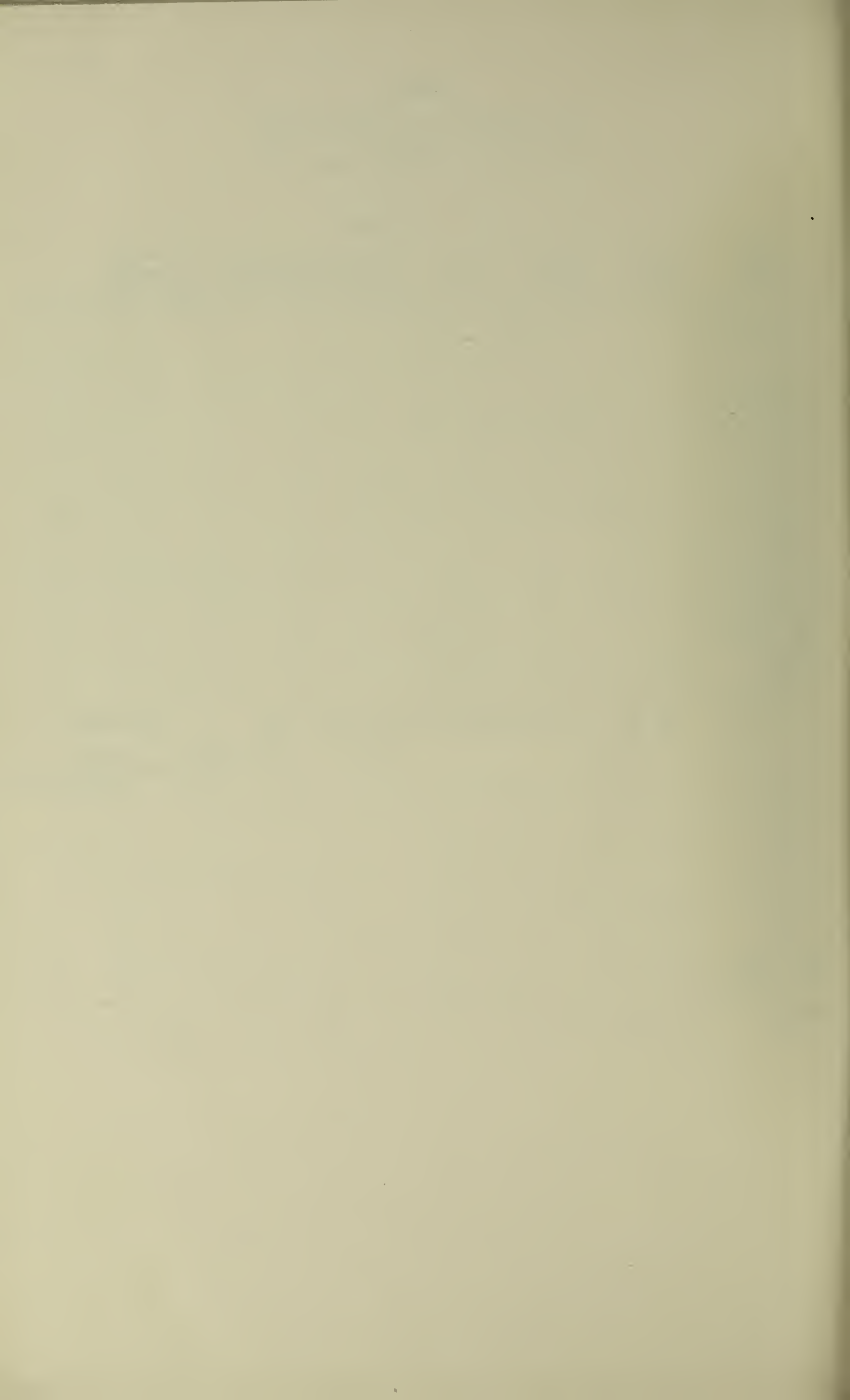


TABLE V

Incidence of Notifiable Diseases in  
Individual Parishes  
As Notified by General Practitioners 1955

	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	MEASLES	ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (PARALYTIC)	ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (NON-PARALYTIC)	ACUTE PNEUMONIA	DYSENTERY	ERYSIPELAS	TUBERCULOSIS (PULMONARY)	TUBERCULOSIS (NON-PULMONARY)	ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS INFECTIVE	PUERPERAL PYREXIA	FOOD POISONING	TOTAL
ASHTON														
BILLING	1	1	32											34
BRAFIELD			1			2			1					4
BUGBROOKE			4	1		1								6
CASTLE ASHBY	1		5											6
COGENHOE		5	2			2								9
COLLINGTREE		3	1						1					5
COURTEENHALL														
DENTON	1							1						2
DUSTON	10	35	83			1		1	20	2	1			153
HACKLETON	1		50			2	1	2					1	57
HARDINGSTONE	1	1	3			1								6
HARPOLE			2						2					4
HARTWELL														
HEYFORD, NETHER			18			2			1					21
HEYFORD, UPPER			3											3
HOUGHTON, GREAT			1											1
HOUGHTON, LITTLE			1						1					2
KISLINGBURY		11	1			1						1		14
MILTON			3											3
QUINTON		1	2											3
ROADE			1								1			2
ROTHERSTHORPE			5	1										6
UPTON			4											4
WESTON FAVELL	1	15	84	2	1	3	2							108
WOOTTON		22	3			2	1		1					29
YARDLEY HASTINGS			6			4		1						11
TOTALS	16	94	315	4	1	21	4	5	27	2	2	1	1	493



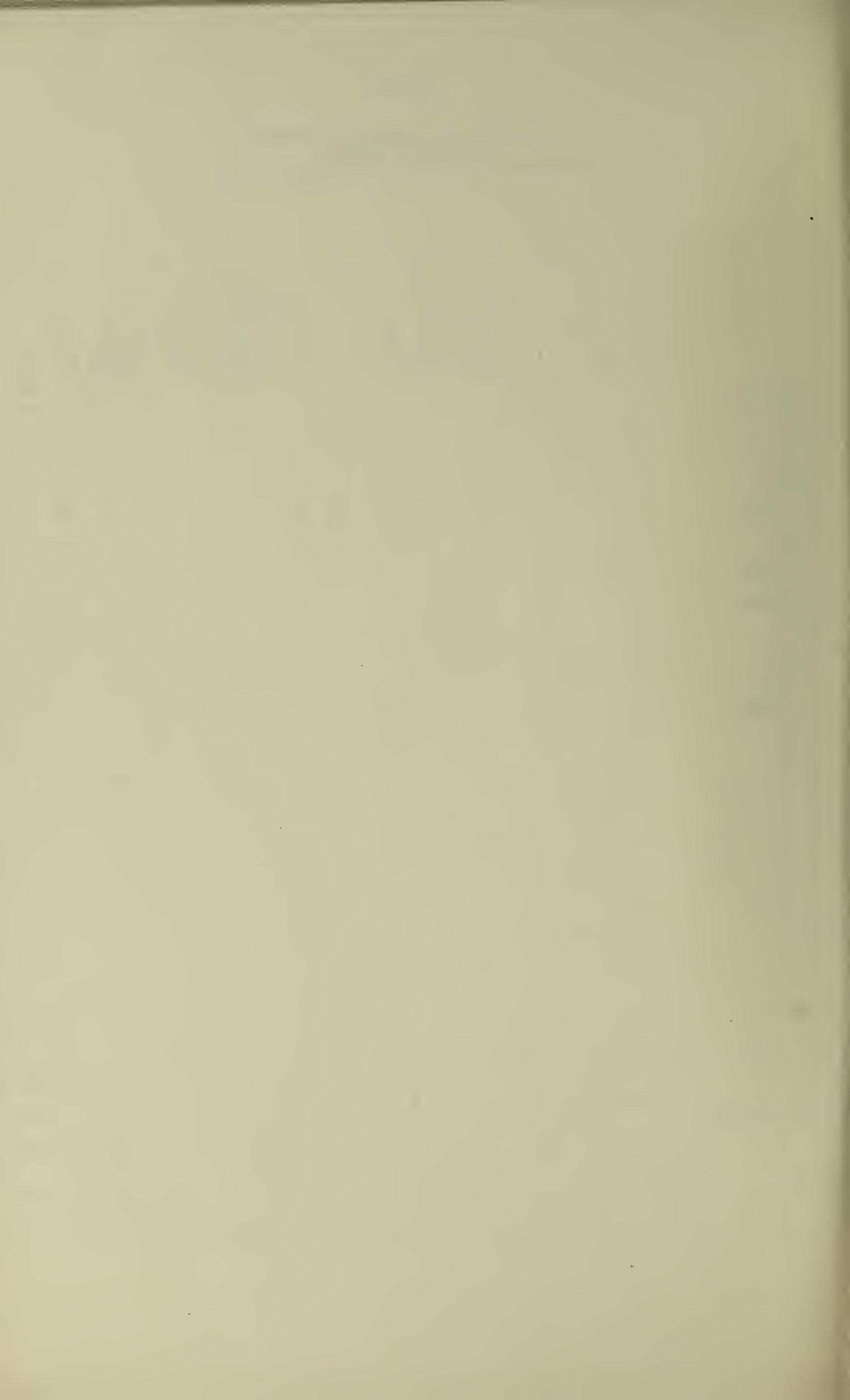




TABLE VI

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES  
AS NOTIFIED BY GENERAL PRACTITIONER - 1955

DISEASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever		1	3	3	5	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	16
Whooping Cough	1	11	18	20	17	11	11	5	-	-	-	-	94
Measles	-	-	-	16	64	76	131	18	7	-	2	1	315
Acute Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	4
Acute Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Acute Pneumonia	-	2	4	3	1	3	1	-	2	1	1	3	21
Dysentery	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Erysipelas	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	5
Tuberculosis Pulmonary	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	2	2	18	1	27
Tuberculosis Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Acute Encephalitis Infective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
TOTALS:	1	17	28	43	87	90	145	27	11	10	25	9	493

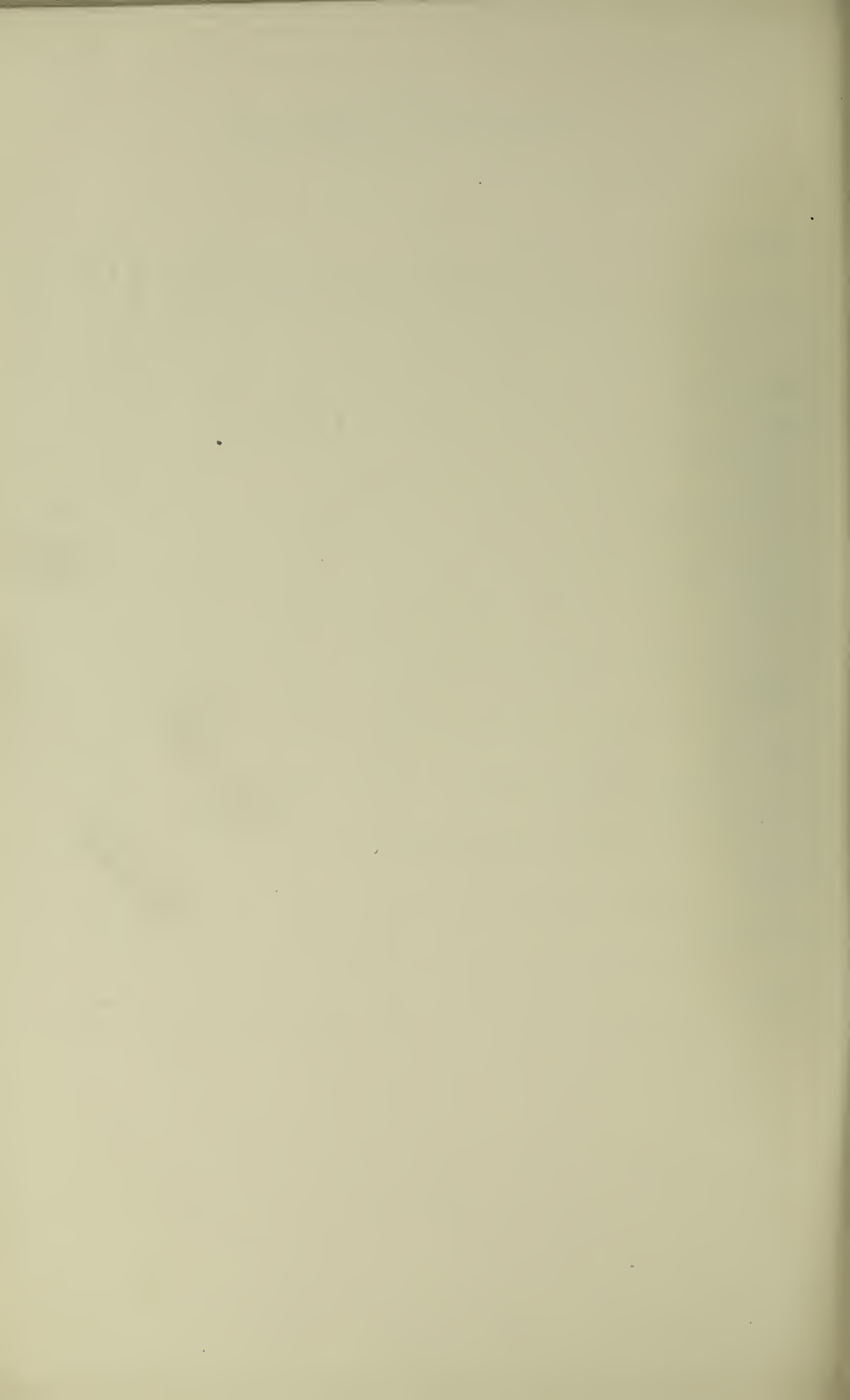


TABLE VII

Factories Act, 1937 - Part I

## 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health made by Sanitary Inspector.

<u>PREMISES</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>No. of written notices</u>	<u>No. of Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	13	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	60	38	5	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	25	2	-	-
	98	53	5	-

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:-

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>Referred by H.M. Inspector</u>
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	2	-	4
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	-	-	-	-
	6	3	-	4

/continued....

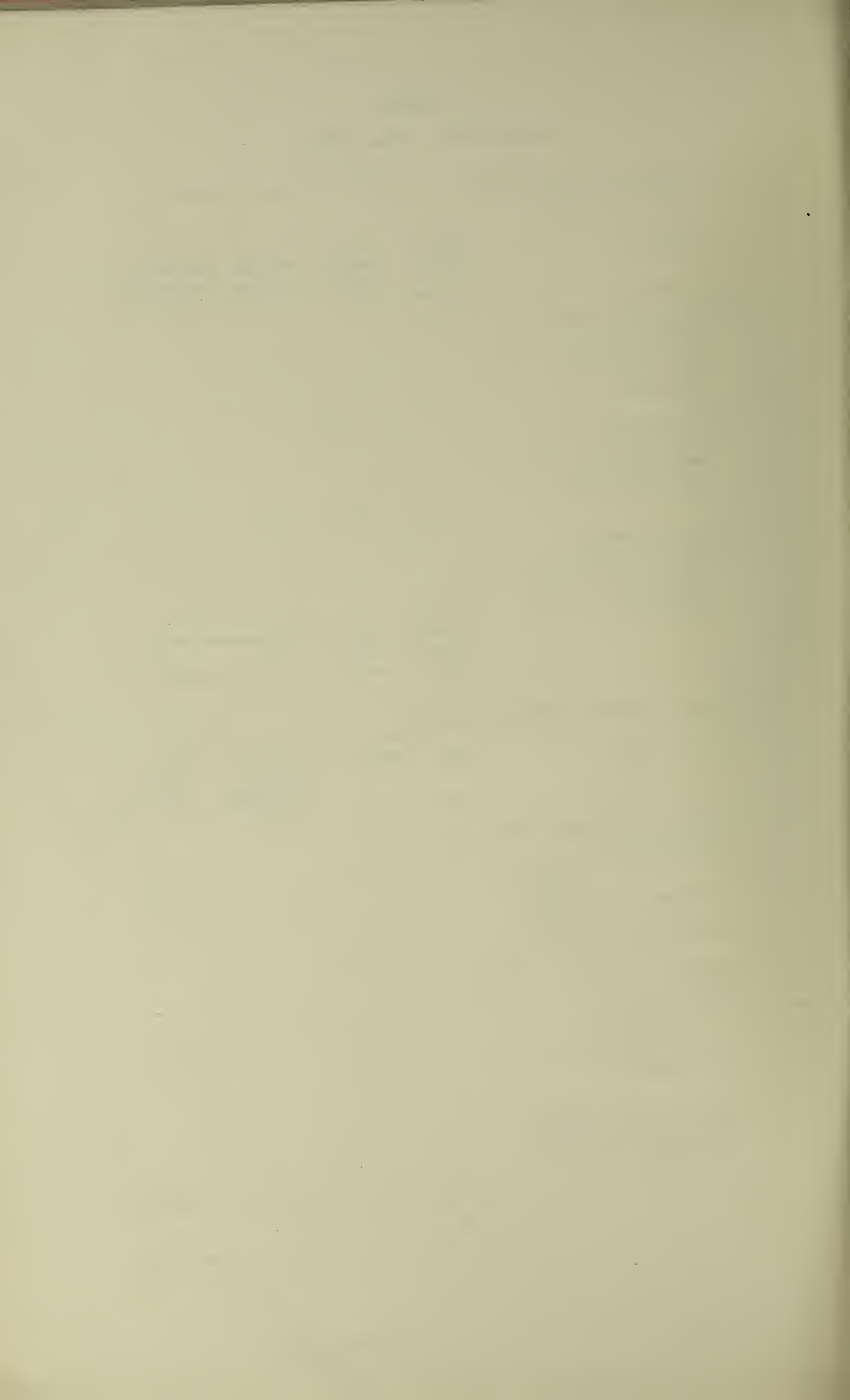


TABLE VII (Continued)

26.

Part VIII, Factories Act, 1937  
Outwork (Sections 110 & 111)

Nature of works	No. of outworkers in list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises
Curtains and furniture hangings	-	-	-	-
Wearing Apparel making etc.	5	-	-	-
Furniture & Upholstery	-	-	-	-
Making of Boxes (Cardboard)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	5	-	-	-





SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING 1955  
BY THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

(a) Infectious Diseases.

(i) Investigating Cases. 18

(ii) Performing Disinfections. 5

(iii) Visits to Contacts. 3

(b) Disinfestations.

(i) Dwelling Houses. 1

(ii) Business Premises. 1

(iii) Public Buildings.

(iv) Visits to Premises under Section 83.

(c) Drainage.

(i) Drains Tested. 5

(ii) Drains Exposed under Section 48.

(iii) Drains Reported Blocked. 18

(iv) Drains Repaired.

(v) Drains Reconstructed.

(vi) Other Drainage Visits. 64

(d) Water Supply.

(i) Houses Connected to Main Supply.

(ii) Water Samples submitted for Analysis.

(a) Chemical - Piped. 1

- Wells and Springs.

(b) Bacteriological - Piped 57

- Wells and Springs. 52

(iii) Water Supply. 37

(e) Visits for Inspection of :-

(i) Tents, Vans and Sheds. 51

(ii) Offensive Trades.

(iii) Canal Boats.

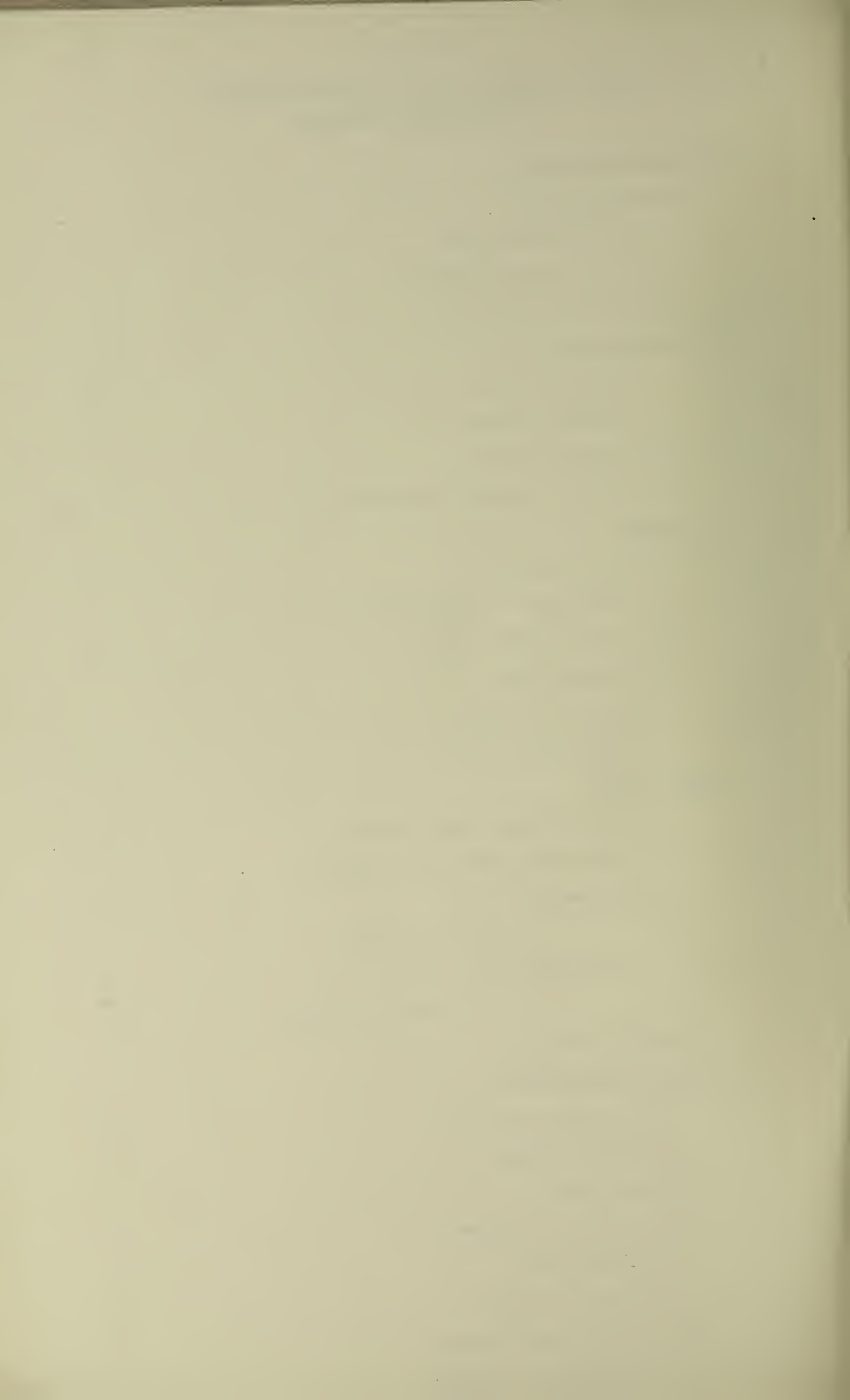
(iv) Atmospheric Pollution. 8

(v) Swimming Baths. 29

(vi) Keeping of Animals. 21

(vii) Accumulations of Refuse. 12

(viii) Miscellaneous Nuisances. 52



2. HOUSING ACT, 1936.

(a) Houses Inspected	62
(b) Houses where Defects found.	
(c) Defective Houses Repaired.	
(d) Overcrowding in Houses.	1
(e) Miscellaneous Visits.	64

3. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Dairies, Milkshops.	3
Slaughterhouses.	1664
Knackers Yards.	2
Ice Cream Premises.	17
Other Premises to which Sections 13 and 14 apply.	99
Bacteriological Samples taken under Section 68.	
(i) Milk	2
(ii) Ice Cream	24
(iii) Other Foods.	1
Food Poisoning.	6

4. FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

## Inspections of :-

(i) Factories with Mechanical Power.	29
(ii) Factories without Mechanical Power.	13
(iii) Bakehouses.	9
(iv) Other Premises.	2
(v) Factories under Section 34.	

5. INSPECTIONS UNDER OTHER ACTS.

(a) Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.	104
(b) Petroleum (Regulation) Acts, 1928 and 1936.	8
(c) Miscellaneous Acts, Regulations and Orders.	194

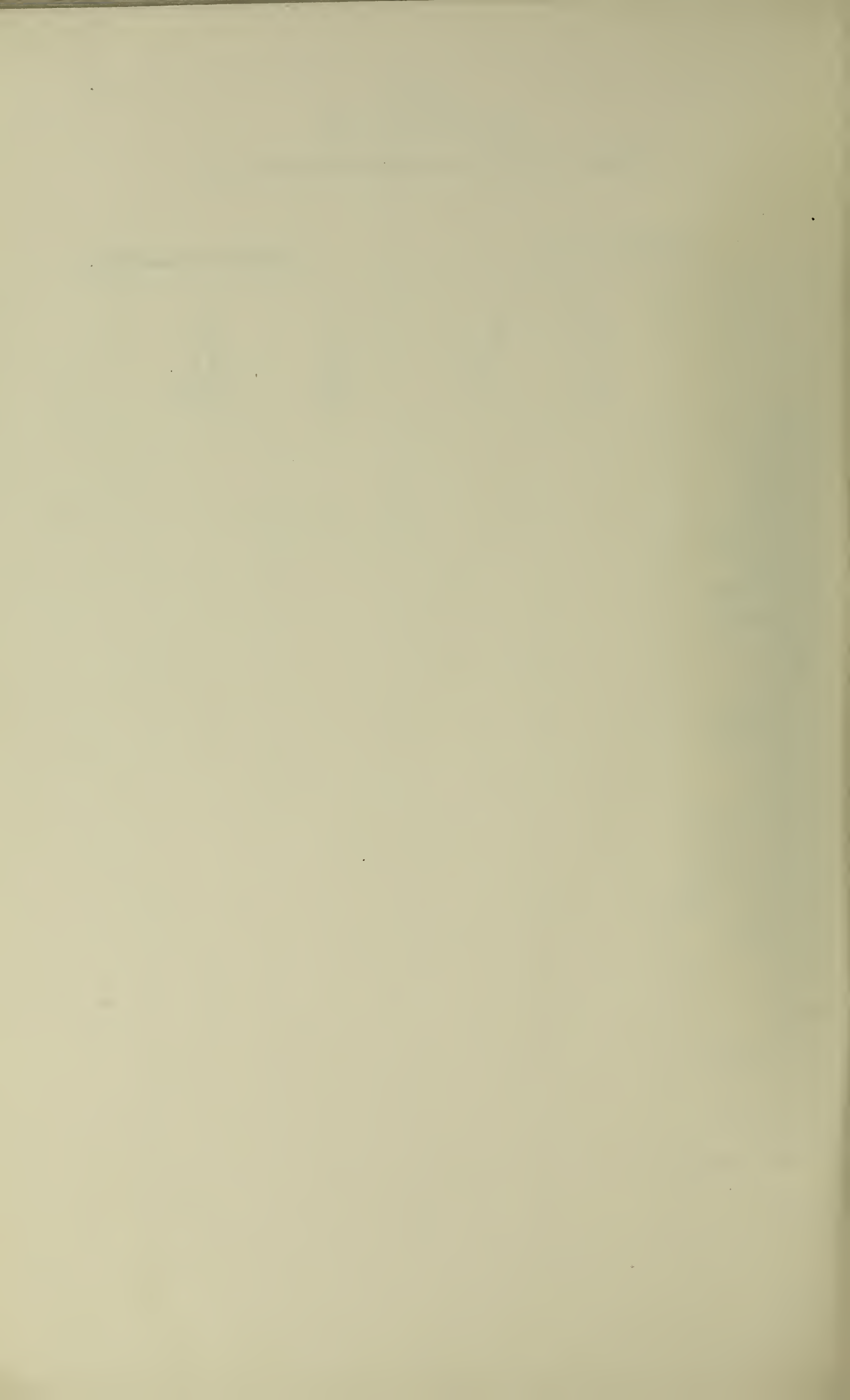
TOTAL INSPECTIONS AND VISITS:

2739



PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.TENTS, VANS, SHEDS AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES, 1955.LICENSING OF LAND.LICENSING OF STRUCTURES.

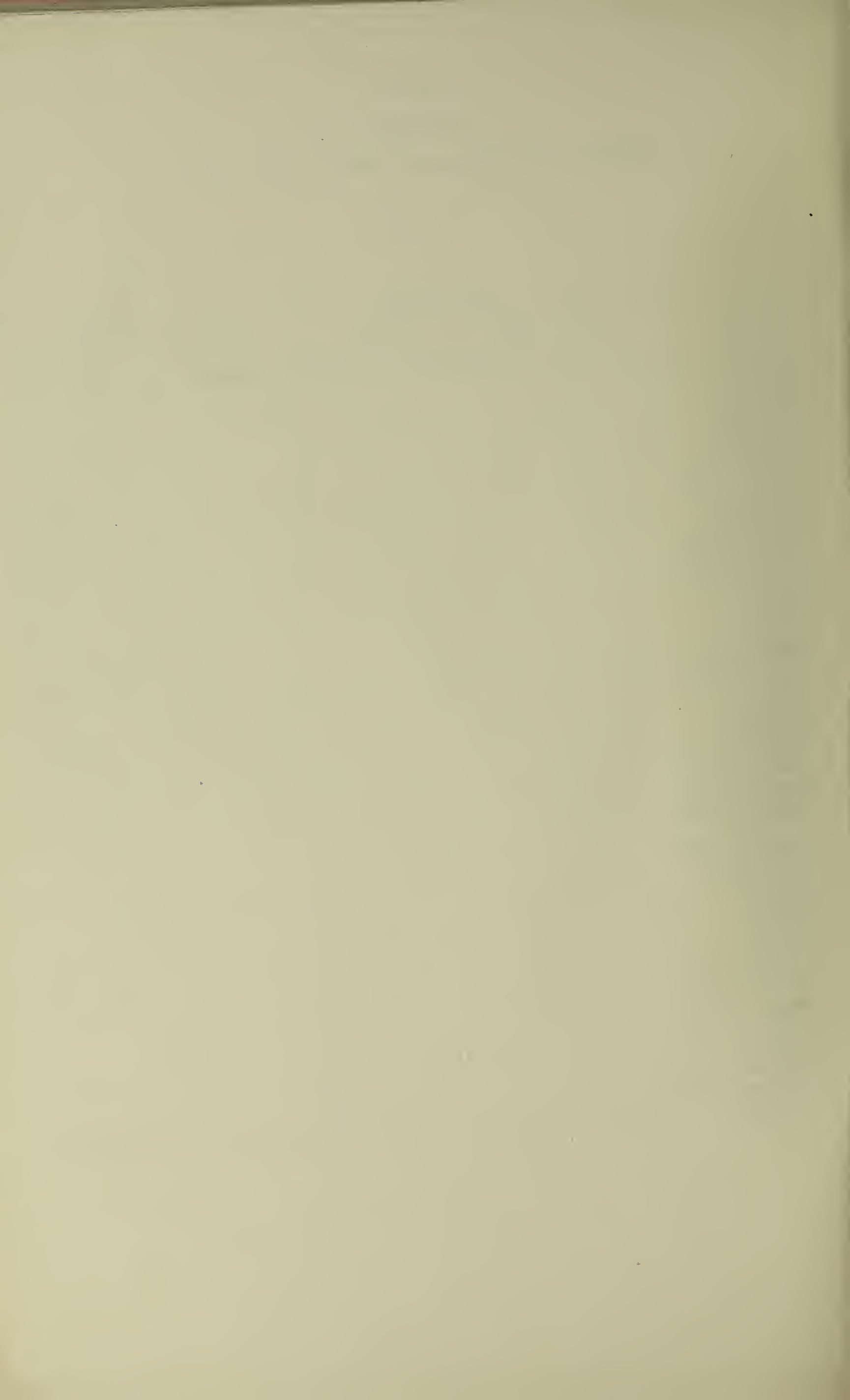
	Application made in 1955.	Total number of sites Licensed.	Applications Approved in 1955.	Renewed Applications Approved in 1955.	Total.
ASHTON					
BILLING		2			
BRAFIELD					
EUGBROOKE			2		2
CASTLE ASHBY					
COGENHOE		2			
COLLINGTREE					
COURTEENHALL					
DENTON					
DUSTON			1		1
HACKLETON				1	1
HARDINGSTONE				2	2
HARPOLE					
HARTWELL					
HEYFORD, NETHER					
HEYFORD, UPPER					
HOUGHTON, GREAT					
HOUGHTON, LITTLE					
KISLINGBURY					
MILTON				2	2
QUINTON				1	1
ROADE		1		1	1
ROTHERSTHORPE					
UPTON					
WESTON FAVELL		1			
WOOTTON					
YARDLEY HASTINGS		1			
TOTALS:		7	3	7	10





Water SupplyBacteriological Examination of Water Supplies, 1955

PARISH	TOTAL	Public Supplies										Private Supplies									
		Piped					Other					Piped					Other				
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
ASHTON	3	2																			
BILLING	5	2					1	1				1								1	
BRAFIELD	6	2																	1		3
BUGBROOKE	2	2																			
CASTLE ASHBY	11	1	4	1			1	2	2												
COGENHOE	4	1			1												1			1	
COLLINGTON	2	2																			
COURTEENHALL	2	2																			
DENTON	2	1		1																	
DUSTON	4	3		1																	
HACKLETON	11	7															1	1	1	1	
HARDINGSTONE	14	4	2									2			2		1		3		
HARPOLE	2	2																			
HARTWELL	2	1																			
HEYFORD NETHER	5	2																	1		
HEYFORD UPPER	1	1														3					
HOUGHTON GREAT	2	2																			
HOUGHTON LITTLE	5	4			1																
KISLINGBURY	3	3																			
MILTON	2	2																			
QUINTON	2	1										1									
ROADE	3	2																			
ROTHERSTHORPE	2	2																		1	
UPTON	1		1																		
WESTON FAVELL	3	3																			
WOOTTON	9	4	1								1								1	2	
YARDLEY HASTINGS	2	1	1																		
TOTALS	110	59	9	2	3	-	2	3	2	-	1	4	-	-	2	-	4	2	3	9	5



Meat & Food Inspection.

During the period ending 31st December, 1955 the following foodstuffs were dealt with by this Department :-

SURRENDERED.

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>Qrs</u>	<u>lbs.</u>	
Home Killed Beef	2	2	2	21	Diseased Condition.
Home Killed Veal	-	-	-	-	Diseased Condition.
Home Killed Mutton	-	1	1	8	Diseased Condition.
Home Killed Pork	-	17	2	11	Diseased Condition.
Home Killed Offal	13	8	1	17	Diseased Condition.
Vegetables	-	15	-	-	Bad Storage.
Tins of Imported Ham	-	-	-	16	Decomposition.
3 Tins of Imported Offal	-	-	-	3	Decomposition.
<u>Total</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>	

During the period 28,411 head of livestock were slaughtered (5417 cattle; 141 cows; 245 calves; 12108 sheep; 10500 pigs).

MEAT INSPECTION REPORT.CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED DURING YEAR, 1955.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	5417	141	245	12108	10500
Number Inspected	5322	139	240	11937	10309
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis &amp; Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1304	38	-	156	476
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci.	24.50	27.34	0.0	1.31	4.62
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	347	22	-	-	158
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	6.54	15.83	0.0	0.0	1.53
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	22	1	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration.	2	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

No horses were slaughtered for human consumption.

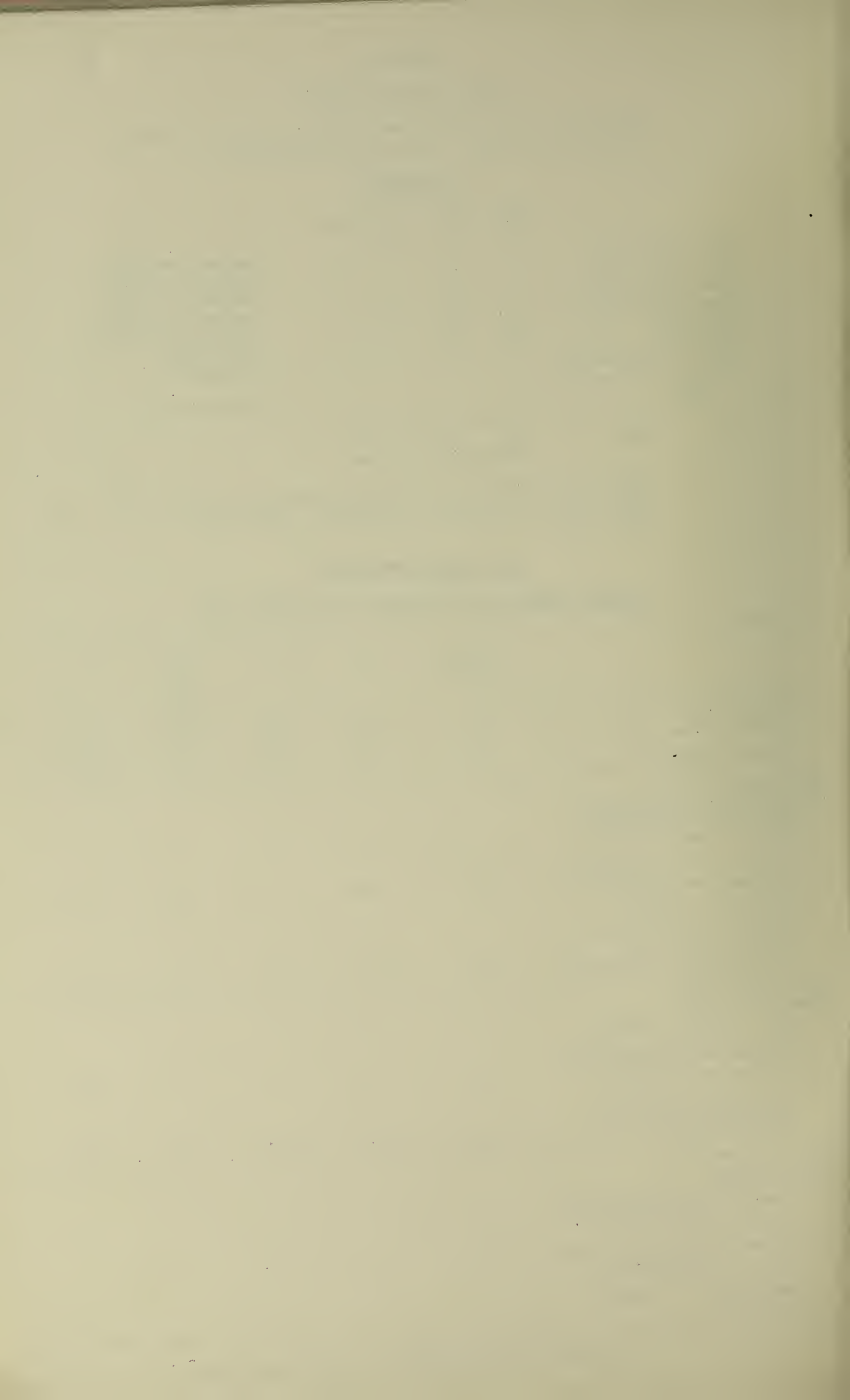




TABLE XII  
REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL  
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1956

COLLECTION		DISPOSAL					
	Total Est. Weight Tons	Total Mileage Travelled	Gayton Tons	Ashton Tons	Denton Tons	Harpole Tons	Yardley Hastings Tons
1955 April	424	2260	238	38	36	89	23
May	414	2430	240	28	34	93	19
June	398	2472	250	30	21	85	12
July	425	2440	269	27	29	87	13
August	271	2546	222	26	30	85	8
September	378	2427	233	24	27	78	16
October	437	2457	263	29	35	93	17
November )	885	5030	509	76	76	195	29
December )							
1956 January	429	2771	242	30	37	105	15
February	434	2535	218	40	46	115	15
March	494	2629	263	42	45	122	22
Totals	5089	29,997	2947	390	416	1147	189
	% per Tip		57.90	7.67	8.18	22.54	3.71

Total Cost of Service

Income from Salvage

Other Income

Total Net Cost

£. s. d.

6916 1 9

1659 8 2

66 0 10

5190 12 9

Annual Average Cost  
Per Dwelling (7485)

Annual Average Cost  
(per head of  
population 21700)

Gross

Net

18/5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

6/4<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

13/10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

4/9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>

Salvage Disposed of During the Year Comprised:

Paper

Textiles

Scrap

Tons

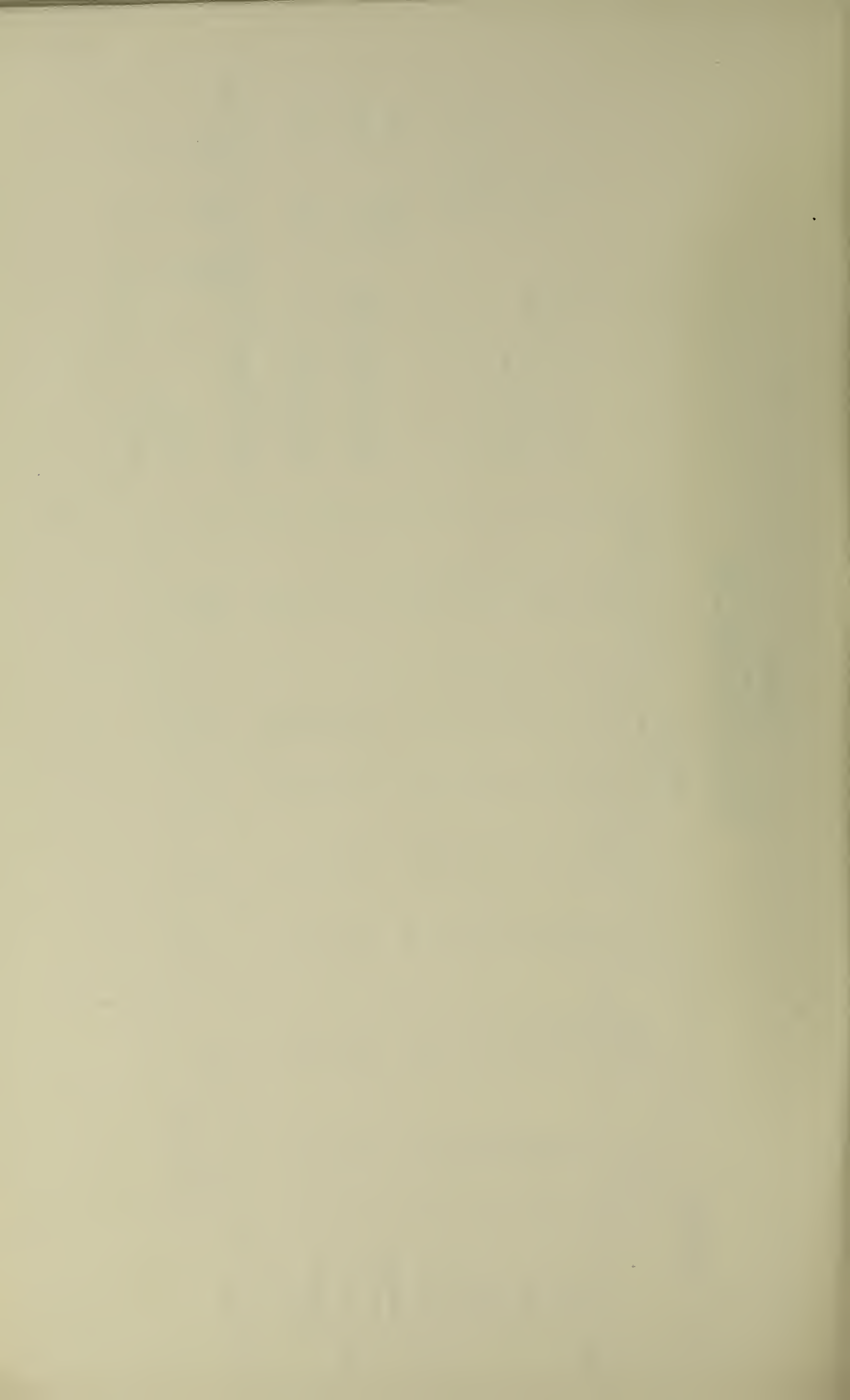
Cwts

Qrs

169 8 0

1 7 0

5 11 0









## Schedule of Sanitation and Water Supplies Within the District

34.





